Amendments to the Claims:

The list of claims is as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): In a connector that is stabbed through a slot in a main beam in a suspended ceiling grid to lock

(1) with the main beam, and

(2) with an opposing identical connector already in the slot, and that has a ~~cantilevered spring~~ straight locking latch cantilevered from a base in the connector at a bend that is capable of flexing and forming a pivot for the latch to permit the latch to pass through the slot and lock the connector to the main beam, ~~that is integral with, and, in a relaxed position, extends away from a base in the connector;~~

the improvement comprising a ~~locking latch that, in the relaxed position, extends away from the base in~~ bend in the form of an arc, capable of

~~wherein, when the connector is being stabbed through the slot, the cantilevered latch is forced by a side of the slot to~~ flexing along the arc toward the base to permit the latch to pass through the slot[[,]]. ~~and, when the connector has been stabbed through the slot, the cantilevered latch flexes along the arc back to its relaxed position wherein it extends away from the base in an arc.~~

Claim 2 (original): The improvement of claim 1, wherein the arc forms a radius of about .04 inches.

Claim 3 (original): The improvement of claim 1, wherein the locking latch is constructed substantially in accordance with the dimensions shown in Figure 2a.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The improvement of claim 1, wherein such improvement is capable of ~~provides~~ providing a delay in contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, during which delay a taper on the connector being stabbed through the slot positions the connector vertically within the slot, more quickly than without the delay.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The improvement of claim 1, wherein such improvement is capable of ~~provides~~ providing a delay in contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, so that a greater lever arm is created to flex the locking latch as it is stabbed through the slot than would be created without the delay.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The improvement of claim 1, wherein such improvement is capable of ~~provides~~ providing a delay in contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, during which delay the lateral friction created between the connector already in the slot, and the connector that is being stabbed through the slot, is substantially reduced from said lateral friction created without the delay.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The improvement of claim 1, wherein such improvement is capable of ~~provides~~ providing a

delay in contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, so that during the delay the connector being stabbed through the slot can be adjusted vertically to a position where it locks with the connector already in the slot.

Claim 8 (original): In combination, the improvements set forth in claims 1 through 7 above.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A connector of claim 8 that is capable of requiring ~~wherein~~ substantially less force over a shorter distance ~~is required~~ with the improvements set forth in claim 8, to lock the connectors to each other and to the main beam, than is required without the improvements.